



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,343	12/29/2003	Anthony J. Li	1370.121US2	8134
21186	7590	02/20/2008		
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			EXAMINER TURNER, ASHLEY D	
			ART UNIT 2154	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/20/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,343

Applicant(s)

LI ET AL.

Examiner

Ashley D. Turner

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/29/2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

The Examiner withdraws the objections of claims 2-8 10-15,16-20,22, and 23

Applicant's arguments are moot.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 12, 14,15,16,17, 21, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Branson (US 6,425,126 B1) in view of Schwaderer (US 7,180,887 B1).

Referring to claim 1, Branson discloses a method for tracking a transmission status of one or more data elements to one or more routing devices, comprising: providing a list including one or more devices and one or more data elements (Col. 3 lines 3-5); processing the list to determine a data elements to transmit to a routing device of one of the one or more routing devices (Col. 3 lines 6-15); and upon successfully

Art Unit: 2154

transmitting the data element to the routing device, adjusting the list so that the list indicates that the routing device has received the transmitted data element (Col. 8 lines 45 –50). However, Branson did not disclose a routing device and wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table. The general concept of a routing device or wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table is well known in the art as taught by Schwaderer. Schwaderer discloses a routing device and a wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Art Unit: 2154

Branson to include a routing device and wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table in order to update each computer in the network.

Claim 14 is rejected for the same.

Referring to claim 23, Branson discloses a router comprising: a module for providing a list including one or more routing and one or more data elements (Col. 3 lines 3-5); a module for processing the list to determine a data element of said one or more data elements to transmit to a routing device of one of the one or more devices (Col. 3 lines 6-15), a module for transmitting the data element to the routing device; and a module for adjusting the list so that the list indicates that the routing device has received the transmitted data element (Col. 8 lines 45 –50). However, Branson did not disclose a routing device and wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table. The general concept of a routing device or wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table is well known in the art as taught by Schwaderer. Schwaderer discloses a routing device and wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table (Col. 3 lines 20 -35). The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the

information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include a routing device and wherein each data includes a routing entry in a routing table in order to update each computer in the network.

Referring to claim 2 Branson and Schwaderer discloses all of the limitations of claim 2 which are described above. Branson and Schwaderer also disclose "wherein the operation of providing a list includes forming the linked list between the data elements and the routing devices (Branson: Col. 4 lines 31-37) and (Schwaderer: (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An

Art Unit: 2154

Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself).

Claim 15 is rejected for the same.

Referring to claim 3, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 3 which are described above. Branson and Schwaderer also discloses "wherein the providing the list further comprises: providing a global version number (Branson: Col.4 lines 52-59); providing a local version number associated with each said routing device in the list (Branson: Col. 19 lines 44-53) and (Schwaderer : (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically

according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself).

Claim 16 is rejected for the same.

Referring to claim 4, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 4 which are described above. Branson also discloses "wherein when the data element is added to the list, the local version number associated with the data element is set to a value of an incremental global version number (Branson: Col.19 lines 44-53).

Claim 17 is rejected for the same.

Referring to claim 12, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 12 which are described above. Branson and Schwaderer also discloses "wherein the



Art Unit: 2154

adjusting the list further comprises: repositioning the routing device within the list adjacent to the data element and closer to an end of the list than the data element.

(Branson: Col. 3 lines 1-10) and ( Schwaderer: (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself).

Claim 21 is rejected for the same.

Art Unit: 2154

Claims 5,6, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Branson (US 6,425,126 B1) in view of Schwaderer (US 7,180,887 B1) further in view of Kaneko (US 6,505,347 B1)

Referring to claim 5, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 5 which are described above. Schwaderer discloses routing devices in a list (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself). Branson did not disclose the limitation of "wherein the local version number associated with a device in the list is set to an initial value of zero". The general

Art Unit: 2154

concept of the local version number associated with a device in the list is set to an initial value of zero is well known in the art as taught by Kaneko. Kaneko discloses the limitation of "wherein the local version number associated with the routing device in the list is set to an initial value of zero "(Col. 22 lines 43-46). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include the limitation of the local version number associated with a device in the list is set to an initial value of zero in order to update each computer in the network.

Claim 18 is rejected for the same.

Referring to claim 6, Branson discloses all the limitations of claim 6 which are described above. Schwaderer discloses routing devices in a list (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table

Art Unit: 2154

updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself).

Branson did not disclose the limitation of "wherein the local version number associated with a device in the list is set to an initial value of zero and is reset to the local version number of a data element after the data element is successfully transmitted to the device." The general concept of the local version number associated with the routing device in the list is set to an initial value of zero and is reset to the local version number of the data element after the data element is successfully transmitted to the routing device is well known in the art as taught by Kaneko. Kaneko discloses the limitation of the local version number associated with a device in the list is set to an initial value of zero and is reset to the local version number of a data element after the data element is successfully transmitted to the device (Col.22 lines 43- 58). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include the limitation of the local version number associated with a device in the list is set to an initial value of zero and is reset to the local version number of a data element after the data element is successfully transmitted to the device in order to update each computer in the network.

Art Unit: 2154

Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Branson (US 6,425,126 B1) in view of Schwaderer (US 7,180,887 B1) further in view of D'Souza (5,666,523).

Referring to claim 7, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 7 which are described above. Branson did not disclose the limitation of "providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list". The general concept of providing a pointer to start of the list and providing a pointer to an end of the list is well known in the art as taught by D'Souza. D'Souza discloses, "providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list." (Col.7 lines 51-55). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include "providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list" in order to indicate the beginning and finishing of a list.

Referring to claim 8, Branson and Schwaderer discloses the limitation of claim 8 which is described above. Branson also discloses "adding a data element to the end of the list; and incrementing the global version number (Col.19 lines 48-55). Branson did not disclose the limitation of providing a pointer to start of the list and providing a pointer to an end of the list. The general concept of providing a pointer to start of the list and providing a pointer to an end of the list is well known in the art as taught by D'Souza

Art Unit: 2154

discloses, “ providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list.”(Col.7 lines 51-55). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include “ providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list” in order to indicate the beginning and finishing of a list.

Referring to claim 9 Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 9 which is described above. Schwaderer also discloses “adding a routing device to the beginning of the list (Col. 14 lines 15-33 The following discussion describes the structure and core activities of the FTM application. The FTM application is primarily responsible for building, searching, and maintaining the search table and the next-hop table. This includes activities like adding, updating, and deleting entries based on new routing information and changes in routing information, and maintaining layer 2 network information. In order to conduct these activities the FTM application needs to communicate with the network stack through the operating system. Due to the fact that the FTM application runs on different operating systems the protocol for performing the FTM applications may vary from operating system to operating system. In order to minimize these variations the FTM application is implemented in two distinct components. First, an operating system independent application program interface (API) implements a set of core functions that perform the table manipulations. Second, an operating-specific component translates the information required to perform the core functions from the rest of the system into a form suitable for core functions.). Branson did not discloses the

Art Unit: 2154

limitation of providing a pointer to start of the list and providing a pointer to an end of the list. The general concept of providing a pointer to start of the list and providing a pointer to an end of the list is well known in the art as taught by D'Souza discloses, "providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list." (Col. 7 lines 51-55). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include "providing a pointer to start of the list; and providing a pointer to an end of the list" in order to indicate the beginning and finishing of a list.

Claims 10, 11, 13, 19, 20, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Branson (US 6,425,126 B1) in view of Schwaderer (US 7,180,887 B1) further in view of Fujiwara (US 6,301,710 B1)

Referring to claim 10, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 10 which is described above. Branson also discloses the limitation of "locating the routing device in the list which is nearest to a start of the list (Col. 4 lines 30-35); obtaining the version number for the routing device (Col. 4 lines 52-63). Schwaderer discloses routing device in the list (Schwaderer: (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression

Art Unit: 2154

algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 -25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself). Branson did not disclose, "comparing the version number to the global version number to determine if the routing device should have a data element transmitted to the routing device." The general concept of "comparing the version number to the global version number to determine if the device should have a data element transmitted to the device" is well known in the art as taught by Fujiwara. Fujiwara discloses comparing the version number to the global version number to determine if the device should have a data element transmitted to the device (Col. 2 lines 55-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include "comparing the version number to the global version number to determine if the device should have a data element transmitted to the device" in order to update and install new software versions.

Claim 19 is rejected for the same.



Referring to claim 11, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 11 which is described above. Schwaderer also discloses routing device in the list (Schwaderer: (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 - 25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself). Branson did not disclose "wherein the comparing operation determines that the routing device should have the data element transmitted to the device if the version number of the routing device is not equal to the global version number." The general concept of comparing operation determines that the device should have a data element transmitted to the device if the version number

Art Unit: 2154

of the device is not equal to the global version number" is well known in the art as taught by Fujiwara. Fujiwara discloses comparing operation determines that the device should have a data element transmitted to the device if the version number of the device is not equal to the global version number" (Col. lines 55-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include "comparing operation determines that the device should have a data element transmitted to the device if the version number of the device is not equal to the global version number" in order to update and install new software versions properly.

Claim 20 is rejected for the same.

Referring to claim 13, Branson and Schwaderer discloses all the limitations of claim 13 which is described above. Schwaderer also discloses routing device in the list (Schwaderer: (Col. 3 lines 20 -35 The present invention intends to overcome the difficulties encountered heretofore. To that end, a multiple element computer system having a primary computing element and a secondary computing element in operative communication with each other. A table comprised of a plurality of entries with addresses associated therewith is built, wherein the entries are organized hierarchically according to an LC-Trie compression algorithm operating on the addresses. An Information packet is received within the computer system, wherein the information packet has a destination address associated therewith. The table is searched using an LC-Trie search algorithm to find a match between an address of an entry in the table and the destination address of the information packet. The information packet is transmitted

Art Unit: 2154

to a forwarding address associated with the address of the matching entry.) and (Col. 4 lines 20 - 25 Flow 1b depicts the flow for routing table updates by the routing protocol, which takes place as new routes are learned and added to the routing table. Flow 1c depicts the flow for routing responses sent out to other communications equipment as necessary. Flow 2a shows that the network processor also handles the flow of data plane traffic (all traffic passing through the system and not destined for the system itself). Branson did not disclose the limitation of "resetting the local version number of the routing device to be equal to the local version number of the transmitted data element." The general concept of "resetting the local version number of the device to be equal to the local version number of the transmitted data element" is well known in the art as taught by Fujiwara. Fujiwara discloses the limitation of resetting the local version number of the device to be equal to the local version number of the transmitted data element" (Col. 10 lines 18-30 and Col. 10 lines 30 -35). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Branson to include "resetting the local version number of the device to be equal to the local version number of the transmitted data element" in order to update or change the version number.

Claim 22 is rejected for the same.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed on 12/05/2007 have been fully considered but they are deemed moot in view of the new grounds of rejections.

***Conclusion***

Arguments are deemed moot in view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by the amendment.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashley D. Turner whose telephone number is 571-270-1603. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 7:30a.m.-5:00p.m..

Art Unit: 2154

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ashley D Turner  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2154

~~NATHAN J. FLYNN  
SUPERVISOR  
PATENT EXAMINER~~